

Remarks

Claims 1-22 were originally filed in this application.

Claims 23-26 were previously presented but not entered.

Claims 2, 21, and 23-26 were previously canceled.

Claims 27-32 were previously presented.

Claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 11-13, 15-18, 22, 28, 29, and 32 are currently amended.

No new matter is introduced with the amendments.

No new claims are added. No other claims are currently canceled.

As a result claims 1, 3-20, 22, and 27-32 are pending for examination with claims 1, 11, and 22 being independent claims.

Independent claim 1 is currently amended to recite a method of producing treated water comprising introducing water to be treated from a point of entry into a pressurized vessel while introducing the water to be treated into an electrochemical device. The claimed method further comprises removing at least a portion of any undesirable species from the water in the electrochemical device while suppressing hydroxyl ion generation to produce treated water, storing at least a portion of the treated water in the vessel, and distributing at least a portion of water from the vessel to a point of use in a household.

Independent claim 11 is currently amended to recite a method of producing treated water comprising introducing a first portion of water to be treated from a point of entry, and which has undesirable species therein, into a vessel and a second portion of the water to be treated into an electrodeionization device; introducing a portion of the water from the vessel into the electrodeionization device; applying an electrical current below a limiting current density through the electrodeionization device to promote removal of any undesirable species from the water and produce treated water; and maintaining the electrical current below the limiting current density to produce the treated water.

Independent claim 17 is amended to recite water treatment system comprising a vessel fluidly connected to a point of entry, the vessel having a plurality of zones having water contained therein with differing water quality levels; an electrochemical device fluidly connected

to a point of entry and the vessel; a power supply for providing an electrical current to the electrochemical device; and a controller for regulating the electrical current below a limiting current density.

Independent claim 22 is amended to recite a method of facilitating water treatment comprising providing a pressurizable vessel fluidly connectable downstream of a point of entry and further fluidly connectable upstream of a household distribution system fluidly connected to at least one point of use selected from the group consisting of a showerhead, a kitchen sink faucet, a washing machine, and a dishwasher; providing an electrochemical device fluidly connected downstream of the pressurizable vessel; providing a power supply that can provide electrical current to the electrochemical device; and providing a controller that can regulate the electrical current from the power supply to below a limiting current density.

None of the cited references discloses water to be treated from the point of entry being introduced both to the reservoir and the electrochemical device.

None of the cited references discloses a method of treating water or a system for treating water in a household setting.

None of the cited references discloses a vessel with zones having water having differing water qualities.

Accordingly, each of claims 1, 3-20, 22, and 27-32 are allowable over the cited references.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, this application is in condition for allowance; a notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the examiner believes that the application is not in condition for allowance, the examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this Amendment is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50/2762.

Respectfully submitted,
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